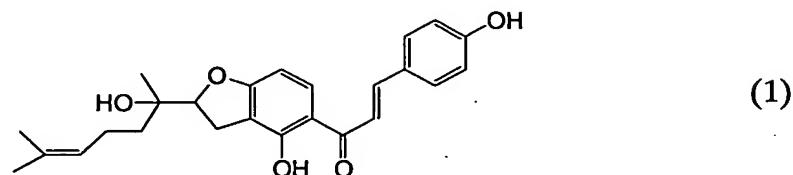


CLAIMS

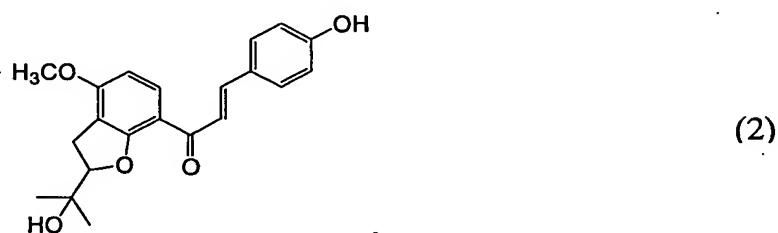
[1] A chalcone compound represented by any one of the following formulas (1) to (9):

[Ka 1]

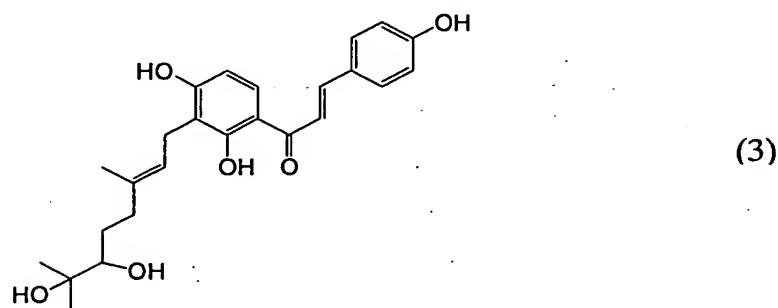


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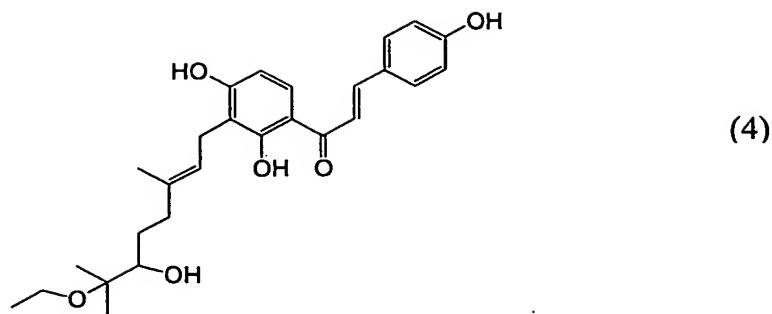
[Ka 2]



[Ka 3]

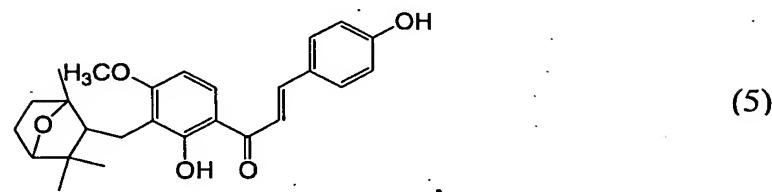


[Ka 4]

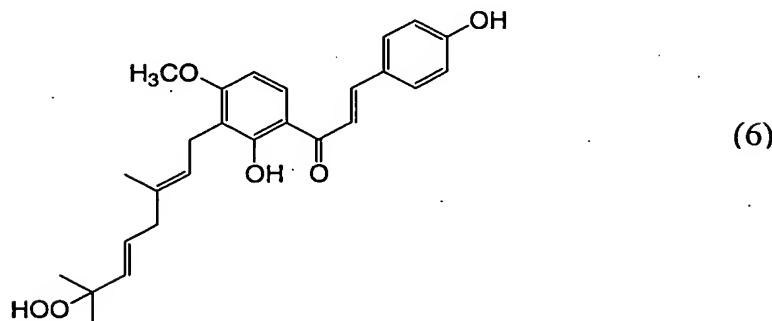


[Ka 5]

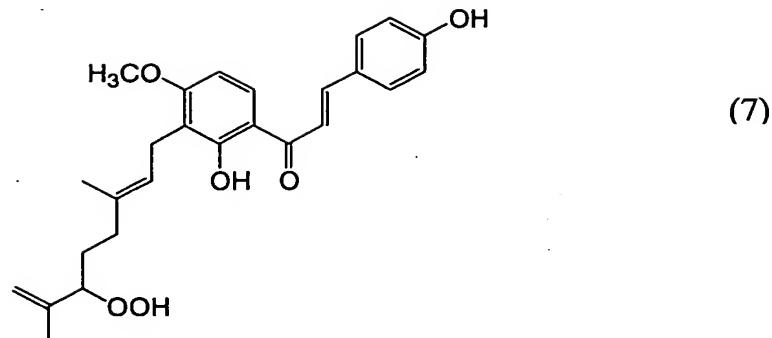
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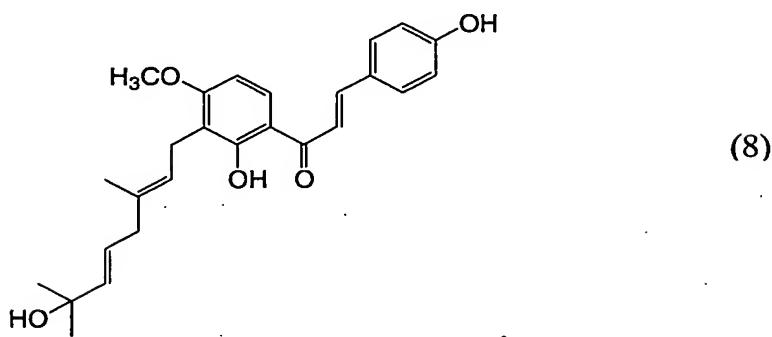
[Ka 6]



[Ka 7]

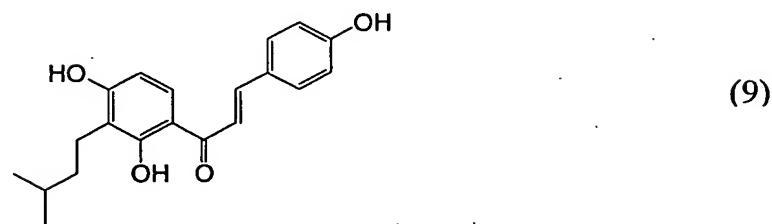


[Ka 8]



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[Ka 9]



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its derivative, or a salt thereof.

[2] A therapeutic agent or prophylactic agent, characterized in that the agent comprises as an effective ingredient the compound, its derivative, or

a salt thereof, each as defined in claim 1, wherein the therapeutic agent or prophylactic agent of a disease shows sensitivity to the compound.

[3] The therapeutic agent or prophylactic agent according to claim 2, wherein the disease showing sensitivity to the compound is a disease requiring suppression of nitrogen monoxide production or inhibition of aldose reductase for treatment or prevention thereof.

[4] A suppressive agent of nitrogen monoxide production or an inhibitory agent of aldose reductase; characterized in that the agent comprises as an effective ingredient the compound, its derivative, or a salt thereof, each as defined in claim 1.

[5] A food, beverage or feed, characterized in that the food, beverage or feed comprises the compound, its derivative, or a salt thereof, each as defined in claim 1.

[6] The food, beverage or feed according to claim 5, wherein the food, beverage or feed is used for treatment or prevention of a disease showing sensitivity to the compound.

[7] The food, beverage or feed according to claim 6, wherein the disease showing sensitivity to the compound is a disease requiring suppression of nitrogen monoxide production or inhibition of aldose reductase for treatment or prevention thereof.